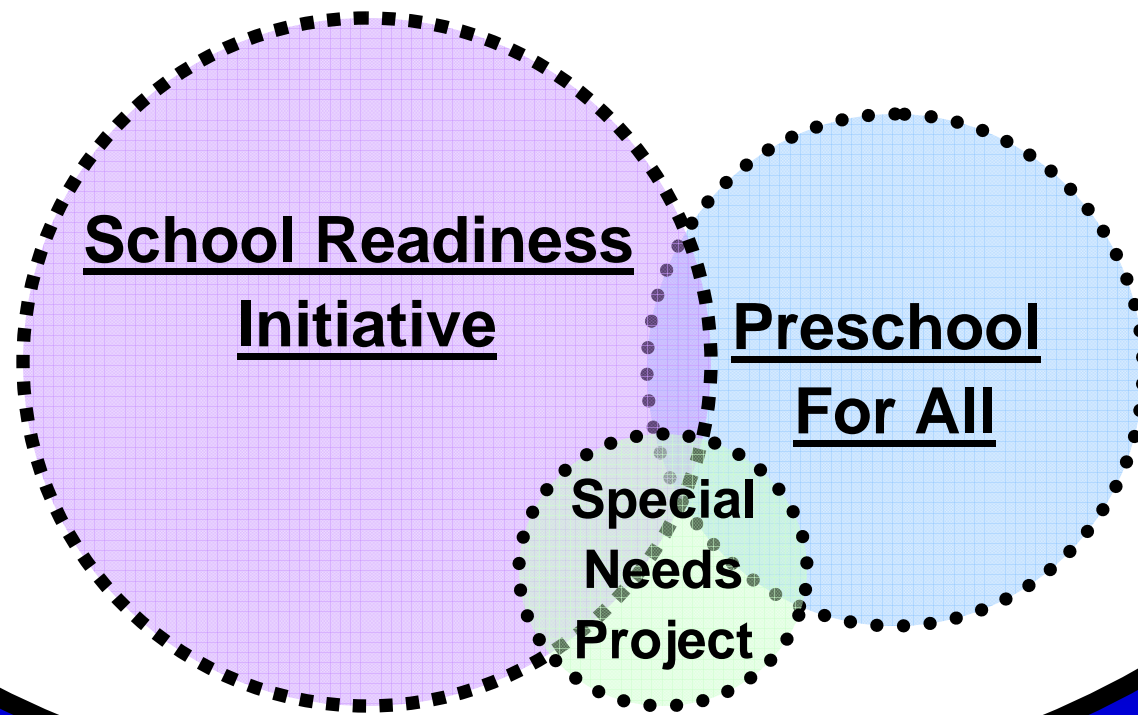


Making Connections:
Preschool For All
with
School Readiness Initiative
and Special Needs Project

First 5 CCFC Meeting
July 2004



Connections Among First 5 CCFC Programs



Connections Among First 5 CCFC Programs

“Connections” AGENDA

- First 5 CCFC Vision
 - * Equity Principles
 - * NEGP School Readiness Definition
- Population Served
- Standards & Criteria
 - * Special Needs Project deliverables
- Evaluation
- Research
- Training & Technical Assistance
- Workforce Development

Connections Among First 5 CCFC Programs

First 5 CCFC Vision

All young children in the State of California enter school physically and emotionally healthy, learning and ready to achieve their greatest potential.

School Readiness is the overarching goal.



Connections Among First 5 CCFC Programs

Principles that are the Foundation for ALL Programs:

- **Equity Principles**
- **National Education Goals Panel School Readiness Definition**
- **Five Essential and Coordinated Elements**
 1. Early Care and Education (ECE)
 2. Parenting and Family Support Services
 3. Health and Social Services
 4. Schools' Readiness for Children/ School Capacity
 5. Program Infrastructure, Administration, and Evaluation

Connections Among First 5 CCFC Programs

School Readiness (SR) Initiative

To improve the ability of families, schools, and communities to prepare children to enter school ready to succeed.

- All counties are participating; matching funds allocated for a four-year program period
- 207 SR Programs target high-priority communities with comprehensive scope of services for children in school-community
- Almost half of the children in target communities are English language learners



Connections Among First 5 CCFC Programs

Preschool for All

An important strategy in School Readiness.goal

- PFA serves All Children
- Opportunity for adapting evidence-based practice to better serve: 1) English learners, and 2) children with disabilities and other special needs
- Twelve county commissions are implementing planning projects (\$50,000) to prepare for anticipated PFA Demonstration Project launch in January 2005.
- Alpine, Los Angeles, and San Mateo have already put forth efforts toward implementing PFA.



Connections Among First 5 CCFC Programs

Special Needs Project

To strengthen the School Readiness Initiative and other First 5 California programs by demonstrating, disseminating, and incorporating effective practices for programs and systems serving young children with disabilities and other special needs and their families.

- RFA available July 2004. Approximately ten demonstration sites will be selected late 2004.




Connections Among First 5 CCFC Programs


Population Being Served

School Readiness Programs serve all children in communities with high priority schools as measured by Academic Performance Index (API).

These are generally communities with high percentages of low-income families, children who are English language learners and a significant number of children with disabilities and other special needs.



**Preschool For All
Demonstration Projects
will begin in these
communities.**



**Special Needs
Demonstration Sites
will be in selected
School Readiness
Programs.**

Connections Among First 5 CCFC Programs

Standards & Criteria for Services and Screening Based On:

- Evidence-Based Practices
- Promising Practices
- New Research

To Promote:

- Equity Principles
- Continuous Program Improvement
- Dissemination of Information Across Programs

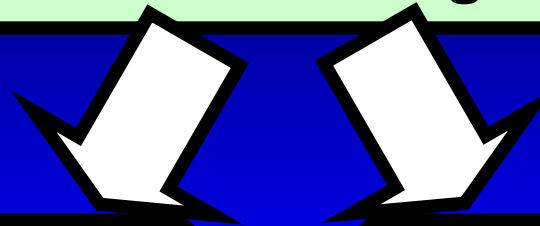


Connections Among First 5 CCFC Programs

Special Needs Project

The following products will better inform
other First 5 CCFC Programs:

- Definition of disability categories
- Evidence-based screening tools & protocol
 - Assessment & referral protocol
 - Effective community outreach
 - Teacher/Staff training



Preschool
For All

School Readiness
Initiative



Connections Among First 5 CCFC Programs

Statewide Evaluation

Preschool For All
(under development)
Will build on the
Statewide, SR, and
SNP Evaluation.

Special Needs
Project
(under
development)

School Readiness
Initiative

Connections Among First 5 CCFC Programs

PFA Proposed Evaluation Questions

- Outcomes
- Process

Data will be disaggregated by age, ethnicity, language, and specific disabilities and other special needs.

Connections Among First 5 CCFC Programs

PFA OUTCOME QUESTIONS (proposed)

1. Are we closing the 'achievement gap' experienced by the diverse populations of California's youngest children? * *also SR, SN*
2. Are children who participate in First 5 PFA programs better prepared to be successful in school? * *also SR, SN*
3. Are more children receiving screening and assessments, provided appropriate services, and effectively included? * *also SN*
4. Are outreach and other efforts effectively including children already identified with disabilities and other special needs? **also SN*
5. Do more teachers have the expertise to include and effectively support:
- children who are English learners, and - children with disabilities and other special needs? **also SN*



SR = School Readiness Initiative
SN = Special Needs Project

Connections Among First 5 CCFC Programs

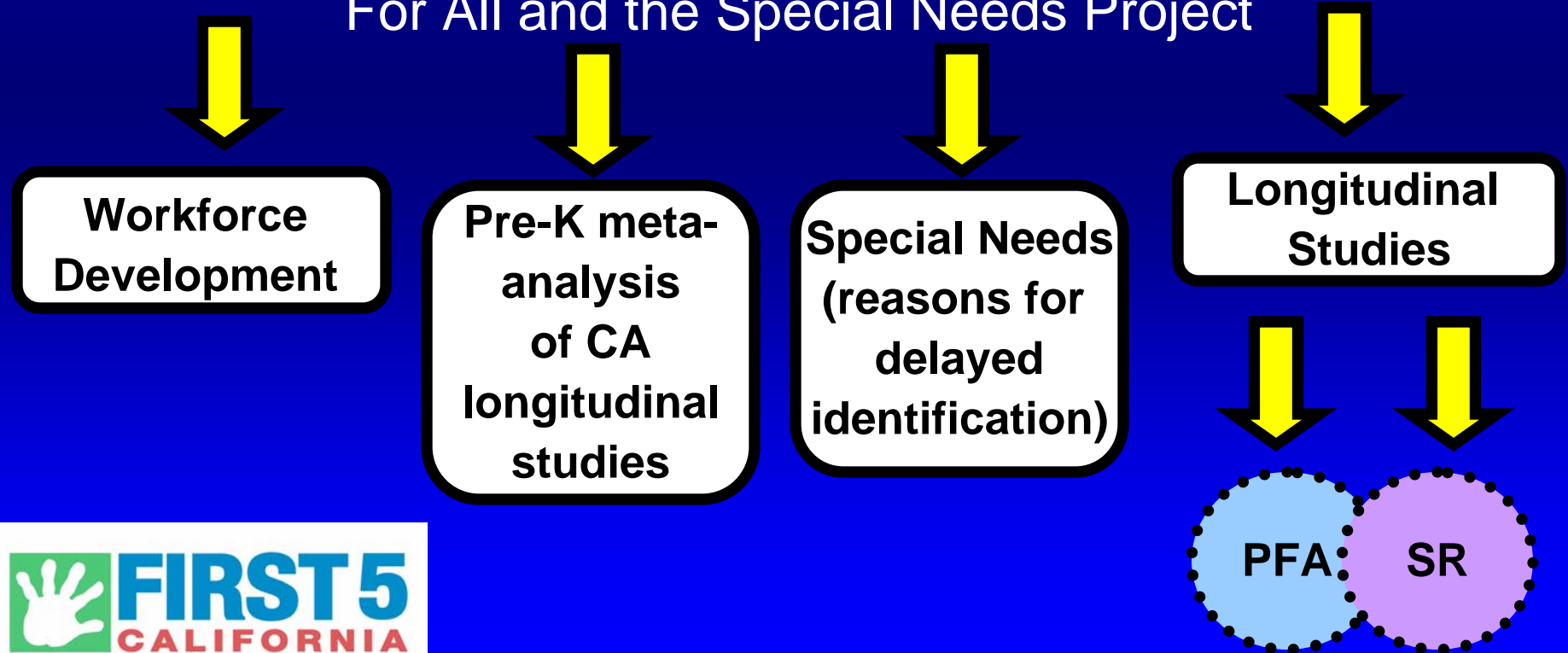
PFA PROCESS QUESTIONS (proposed)

1. Are quality criteria effectively implemented in PFA programs?
2. Which PFA strategies and services most effectively promote positive outcomes for children, particularly
 - children from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds, and
 - children with disabilities and other special needs (* also SN)?
3. Are parents included in and satisfied with the PFA programs? * also SN

Connections Among First 5 CCFC Programs

Research

Research Projects approved by the Commission support the School Readiness Initiative, Preschool For All and the Special Needs Project



Connections Among First 5 CCFC Programs

Training and Technical Assistance

School Readiness
Initiative

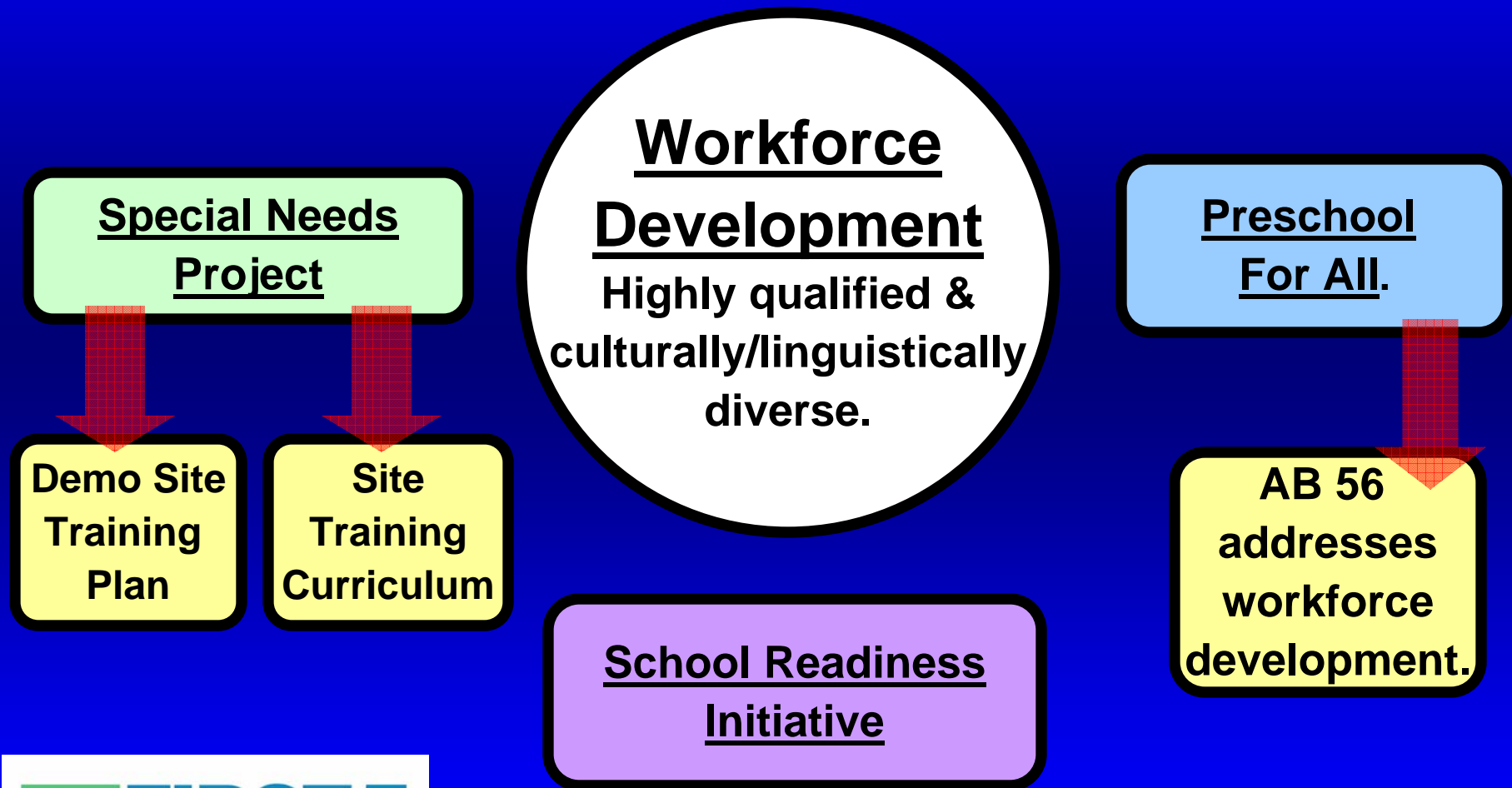
First 5 CCFC
Including Regional TA,
Statewide conference
and Contracts.

Preschool
For All

Special Needs
Project



Connections Among First 5 CCFC Programs



Connections Among First 5 CCFC Programs

Example of Connections to other First 5 CCFC Programs: Workforce Development

In January 2000 a commitment was made to improve the quality of services for young children by increasing the retention and education of ECE staff through CRI matching funds:

56% participants served children with special needs.

Programs target staff in School Readiness Programs.

Can support PFA ECE teacher preparation programs at colleges.



Connections Among First 5 CCFC Programs

